

University of Northern Iowa  
**UNI ScholarWorks**

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Library Connection

Rod Library Newsletters

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Fall 12-15-2015

## Library Connection, v3n1, Fall 2015

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## Library Connection



**ROD LIBRARY**  
University of Northern Iowa

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1227 West 27th St.  
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[www.library.uni.edu](http://www.library.uni.edu)



### Quest for the Surface Hub

Thank you all who supported this effort.

Library Quest for the Microsoft Surface Hub successfully raised \$8,622!

We hope to purchase this innovative resource for the Library in January 2016.

## Latino American Grant

*Latino Americans: 500 Years of History*, a public programming initiative for libraries and other cultural organizations, supports exploration of the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinos who have helped shape the United States over the last five centuries and who have become, with more than 50 million people, the country's largest minority group.

Rod Library won a competitive grant for the NEA to host a year long series of events celebrating Latino culture and contributions in the United States.

We have hosted several film screenings, speakers, and events, and have a full calendar set for the

rest of the year. The most substantial project we are undertaking is *Tu Historia: Latino Americans in Iowa*. This is an oral history project that will collect the stories of Latinos living in Iowa with the intention of creating greater cultural understanding through shared experiences. These histories, collected by professors and students from UNI, will be made available to the public online through UNI ScholarWorks, the Rod Library's institutional repository.

To find out more about our *Latino Americans* programming, visit our website at [www.library.uni.edu/diversity](http://www.library.uni.edu/diversity).

## Youth Librarian News

In August, Katelyn Browne joined Rod Library as the new Youth Services Librarian.

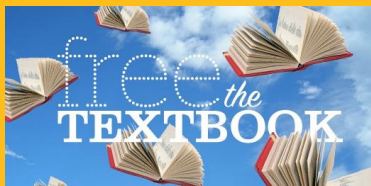
Katelyn has been providing presentations on new and exciting youth materials for teacher-librarians and others around the state. She also has been busy providing instructional assistance with Children's Literature classes. Students have been using our collection to do book reviews, learn about specific authors and illustrators, find materials for lesson plans, and read with children they tutor, among other tasks.

We also have seen an influx of children in the youth collection. Classes from the UNI Child Development Center have been visiting us for occasional themed story-time programs.

For more information about the Youth Collection, visit our website at <http://www.library.uni.edu/youth/>.

To receive our newsletter or information about upcoming book talks, or if you have other questions, e-mail Katelyn at [katelyn.browne@uni.edu](mailto:katelyn.browne@uni.edu).





## Work in Progress



Scholarspace and Makerspace construction are underway. Both spaces are set to open during the Spring 2016 semester.

## UNI Museum glass plate digitized



"Liken's Molasses Mill, 1906"  
Donated by Allan Ostar

# UNI Joins Open Textbook Network

According to the College Board, students can spend over \$1,000 annually on books and supplies. By using open textbooks, students could save hundreds of dollars per semester.

UNI has joined the Open Textbook Network (OTN), a consortium of colleges and universities working to advance open textbook initiatives. OTN hosts the Open Textbook Library, comprised of complete peer-reviewed textbooks licensed so faculty and students can freely use, adapt, and distribute the material. Open Textbooks can be downloaded for no cost, or printed inexpensively. The Open Textbook Library is a tool to help faculty find affordable, quality textbook solutions.

The institutions in OTN work together to:

- Help faculty members understand and adopt open textbooks in their classes

- Increase capacity of institutions to support open textbooks on campus
- Collects data to show the impact of open textbooks for students

As part of this membership, UNI is hosting an Open Textbook Workshop sometime next fall for faculty, which will offer an introduction to open textbooks and how they benefit students both financially and academically.

Joining OTN is an extension of the UNI ScholarWorks digital suppository initiative to bring free global access to information.

If you have questions participating in the development of UNI ScholarWorks or the upcoming workshop, please do not hesitate to contact Ellen Neuhaus at [ellen.neuhaus@uni.edu](mailto:ellen.neuhaus@uni.edu) or (319) 273-3739.

# Digitizing the UNI Museum

UNI Museum serves as an educational resource with the purpose of supporting the independent pursuit of knowledge through diverse collections, ongoing research, innovative exhibits, and alignment with academic programming.

Rod Library and acquired UNI Museum are continually seeking ways to inspire. One way to continue reaching audiences and inspire the pursuit of knowledge is by digitizing pieces of the UNI Museum collection. Scanning these plates allow the museum to preserve these pictorial histories despite the ongoing deterioration of the images common with this early form of photography. Digitization will increase accessibility and searchability

ty of UNI Museum collections. The UNI Museum has a collection of photographs representing a wide range of subjects including the history of American rural schools to the exploration of the South Pole. Due to their fragile nature, the museum's primary concern has been the preservation of the glass plate negatives and glass lantern slides. The use of the Rod Library's digitization equipment has allowed these slides to both be preserved and be shared with the world.

Nathan Arndt, UNI Museum Curator, is excited to offer a glimpse of the past to museum patrons across the world. View the images [here](#).